

# The Framingham Circuit

Newsletter of the Framingham Amateur Radio Association

November 2009, Vol. 76, No. 11

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## Thursday, Nov 5 This Month's Meeting

Our speakers for our November meeting will be Rick Zach, K1RJZ speaking about the GEMOTO 900 Mhz repeater group and Cal Calvitto, WA1WOK on D-Star. Check out the President's Message for more information on this meeting.

## Submitting Material to the Circuit

Material may be submitted for publication by sending it directly to the editor. This can be done by US Mail, or via the Internet (preferred). The deadline for each issue is the **Wednesday**, one week before the monthly meeting.

### by mail

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### by internet

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## President's Message

Hello everyone! We had a good turnout of about 25 people to hear Steve K1SLB speak on the importance of grounding. I think we all learned something from his presentation. Thanks to all who attended!

It's with much sadness that I report the passing of Ray Barnes, N1OJX. Ray was a very active FARA member for many years and a true gentleman and genuinely a nice person. He was a friendly and sincere individual and always had something complimentary to say. He will indeed be missed.

At the upcoming meeting on Thursday, November 5 at the police station at 7:30 PM, we will be discussing incorporating FARA and making us a non-profit tax exempt organization. The reasons for doing this are too involved and detailed to put into this Circuit, so please come to the meeting and find out why we feel this is necessary. I am certain that the Board of Directors hasn't considered of every aspect of this issue and we will entertain anyone's input and experience that you may have had with this through other organizations.

I am looking at either December 12 or the 19<sup>th</sup> for our holiday party at the Super Buffet restaurant in Marlborough. Let me know which date works best for you and we will go with the majority. Those of you who attended FARA night out will attest that for the money, you get a great deal at this establishment. The restaurant has a great selection of American and Chinese fare and you will not be disappointed.

Our speakers for our November meeting will be Rick Zach, K1RJZ speaking about the GEMOTO 900 Mhz repeater group and Cal Calvitto, WA1WOK on D-Star. At a time when many ham radio clubs are struggling to have any sort of activity on their two meter repeaters, other groups are actually adding new repeaters and expanding their memberships. Why? Rick will have a presentation on the many new 900 MHz repeaters popping up in NH, MA and RI. The activity on these repeaters is very real with a vibrant and growing ham community.

The MMRA has recently installed a new two meter D-Star digital repeater on the roof of the Prudential Tower. Another two meter D-Star digital repeater will soon be going up on the WMUR-TV tower on Mt. Uncanoonuc in NH. Both of these repeaters will have outstanding coverage and will be linked. Cal Calvitto, WA1WOK from the NHIT D-Star group (and yes, also of HRO) will give a presentation and demonstration on D-Star.

This presentation sounds intriguing and worth attending. D-Star is a new technology with which very few of us are familiar, so please make every effort to attend and become enlightened! Happy Thanksgiving!

73, Gordy K1GB

## FARA Sunday Night Net Control Schedule 2009/2010

W1EQW	11/8	12/20
W1VIV	11/15	12/27
W1NXC	11/22	1/3
K1GB	11/29	1/10
WA1HAM	12/6	1/17
KB1NIV	12/13	1/24

## TUBE OF THE MONTH

Norm, N6JV, [www.n6jv.com](http://www.n6jv.com)

[From the Mother Load DX/Contest Club Newsletter]

A new feature from the El Dorado County Circuit, sister publication of the Framingham Circuit! -ed.

### F-328A

In the 1920s, the ham community was small and everyone knew who the “big guns” were. Dxing was popular, but the equipment was mostly home made especially for the higher short waves. QST would run stories about working Europe from W6 on 40 meters. Don Wallace, 6AM, was one of the most famous DXers of the day. When Don’s old triode (a UV206) was getting soft, he contacted 6EX in the San Francisco area. 6EX ran the National Radio Co. who made rectifiers and did some tube rebuilding. Don was sent a

Federal F-328A that may have been rebuilt and an arc rectifier to power it. Don constructed a water jacket to cool the tube and had rubber hoses for tap water input. The output ran outside onto the driveway. The circuit was a Hartley oscillator and when conditions were good, the water came out steaming. This tube had a dissipation of 5 KW and there was much speculation as to the output power. I believe this rig was the origin of the expression “A California kilowatt”. The tube was damaged in the big earthquake of 1933 and was retired. About 45 years ago, I met W6AM at a convention and the conversation led to the water-cooled tube of 1927 that seemed to be one of Don’s favorite yarns.




### FARA Horizons

- Nov: Rick Zach K1RJZ, GEMOTO 900 Mhz repeater group
- Dec: Terry Stader KA8SCP, new EMCOMM presentation
- Dec: Holiday Party?
- Jan: FARA movie night, DVD of a DXpedition
- Feb: John Garrett W9NT, presentation on Interference
- March: Mike Raisbeck K1TWF, ARRL Division Vice Director
- March 20-21: License in a Weekend
- April: Greg Algieri WA1JXR, transmission Lines
- April 11: FARA Flea Market
- May: Pizza Party
- May 1-2: New England QSO Party
- June TBD: Election of Officers

This month's Circuit sponsored by:

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**Club Information 2009**

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Meeting: Club meetings are normally held on the 1st Thursday of each month at 7:30PM in the basement of the Danforth Museum, on Lexington St.

Club Nets: FARA Net: Sunday, 7:30PM, 147.75/147.15 - social/chat, ARES preparedness

Club Station: W1FY, the club station and shack, is open Saturday mornings from 8:30-12:00. Call the club number, 508-879-8097 to confirm.

Club Web Site: <http://www.fara.org>